

**First Preliminary Amendment**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: February 16, 2009

Electronic Signature for Jennifer K. Stollenwerk: /Jennifer K. Stollenwerk/

Docket No.: 65937-0045  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Joseph L. Mark

Application No.: 10/786,727

Confirmation No.: 2729

Filed: February 25, 2004

Art Unit: 3736

For: FLUID CONNECTOR AND BIOPSY SYSTEM  
INCLUDING SAME

Examiner: J. G. Hoekstra

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated December 15, 2008, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.